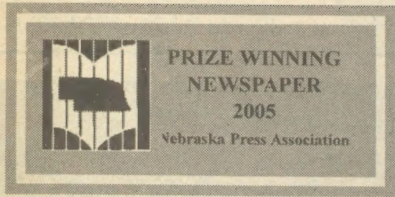


THE

GATEWAY

THE UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA AT OMAHA'S STUDENT NEWSPAPER SINCE 1913

VOLUME 05 | ISSUE 32 | TUESDAY | January 24, 2006



Regents housing approved

Board of Regents

CRYSTAL R. REID
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

UNO's first phase of housing was passed with little resistance.

Despite his concern that a 1,200-bed UNO housing plan could take students from other University of Nebraska campuses, Regent Kent Schroeder voted for the first phase of UNO's residential expansion plan, which will add a parking structure and a 400-bed dorm to the North Campus by 2007.

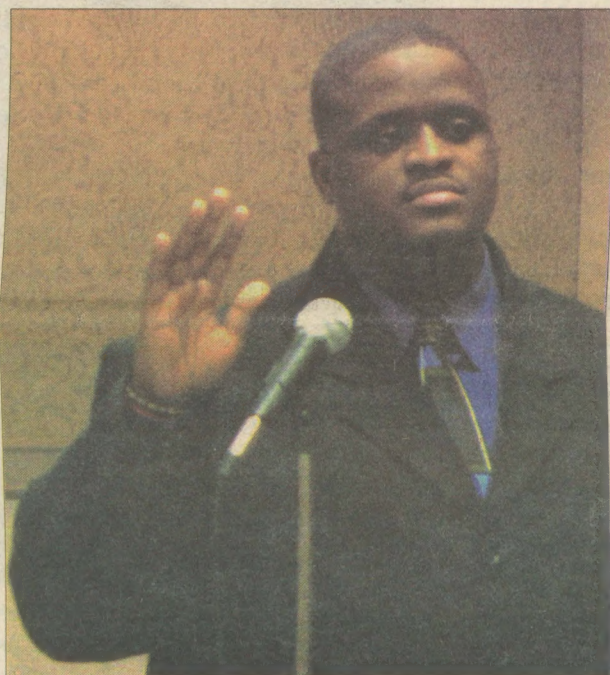
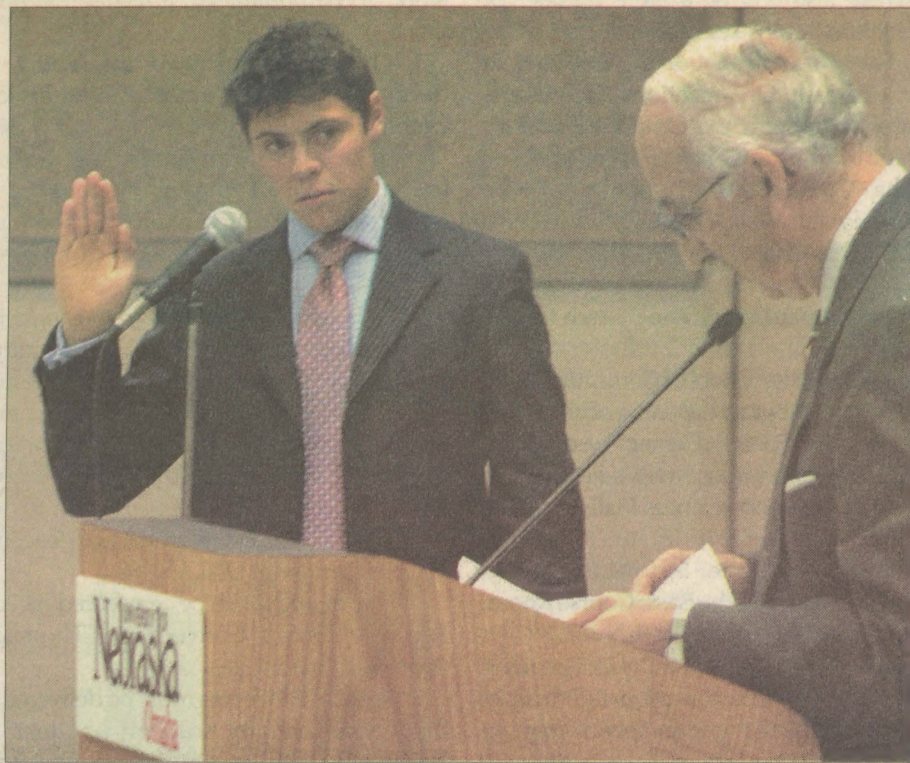
Other regents followed suit at the Board of Regents meeting on Friday, with all but University of Kearney President/Regent Brad Bohn voting for the measure.

"I was very excited about the fact that all the regents voted for it," said UNO President/Regent Steve Massara. "It shows a lot of solidarity for the expansion for the NU system."

Chancellor Nancy Belck's three-phase residential plan for UNO includes the new housing on North Campus, then two phases that would add 800 beds to South Campus. The university is also pursuing the purchase of property along Center Street to expand campus life.

All other items on the agenda were approved, including construction of a new building at the University of Nebraska Medical Center and the redirect of area traffic, according to a news release.

Look for future issues of the *Gateway* for more information about the UNO's housing projects.



photos by Caelan Millerd

Student body President/Regent Steve Massara (top) and Vice President VaShawn Smith take their separate oaths of office on Thursday, Jan. 19 at their inauguration in the Milo Bail Student Center. The two outlined their goals for their term, which included increasing Student Government visibility and awareness.

New student body president hopes to ban smoking

CRYSTAL R. REID
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Newly inaugurated President/Regent Steve Massara wants to snuff out smoking on campus.

In his inauguration speech Thursday, Massara outlined his plans for his year in office, including looking at a campus-wide smoking ban, building a statue of a Maverick and increasing Student Government's visibility.

Before Massara creates a resolution for the ban, he wants to put the issue in front of the students.

"Ultimately, I'm in favor of a smoking ban, but I believe in taking it to the students and asking how they feel," Massara said Sunday.

Massara hopes to offer the issue up for an online vote, to find a general student consensus.

He realizes that Student Government resolutions are non-binding, he said, so if the students want a smoking ban, he plans to work closely with administration.

"I have faith that ultimately it'll work out,"

Also on his term's agenda is creating a Maverick statue as a "rallying point" for school spirit.

"We need something that helps bring up spirit on our campus," Massara said. He added that student fees would not be used.

Massara also hopes to continue to increase awareness of student government, and Vice President VaShawn Smith emphasized that the two would make themselves available as much as possible.

"This is a metropolitan campus, our doors are all the metro," Smith said at the inauguration. "Don't hesitate to stop if you have a problem that needs to be addressed."

Resignations, appointments focus of Student Senate meeting

SCOTT STEWART
SENIOR STAFF WRITER / SYSTEMS MANAGER

A student senator gave a presentation about sweatshop labor to the student senate meeting on Thursday.

Corby Krick urged the senate to help with the problem of sweatshop labor by "urging the university of Nebraska Board of Regents to strengthen their policy so our goods with the university logo on them are sold fairly."

When asked by a senator where products bearing the university logo are presently made, Krick replied, "We have no idea. We need to know where our stuff is being made."

Student organizations often will buy shirts from the cheapest source online, which may be produced in sweatshops,

Krick said.

In other business, newly-installed Vice President VaShawn Smith got through the first meeting of his term without President/Regent Steve Massara, who was at the Board of Regents meeting in Lincoln.

"I guess it went good—I had to do three reports, that was the bad part of it," Smith said after the meeting.

"Have a great meeting and I'll see you next week," Smith read on behalf of Massara.

Three senators were appointed to serve on the Student Activities Budget Committee: Nicole Massara, Freshman Class Senator; James Hulstein, College of Education Senator; and Shari Tangeman, College of Business Administration Senator.

SABC decides how certain student fees are allocated among the *Gateway*, the

See **RESIGNATIONS:** Page 3

Space Safe Initiative design contests announces winner

ANGI SADA
NEWS EDITOR

ABC Soup and the Chancellor's Office on Diversity have announced the winner in the Safe Space Initiative grapheme contest.

UNO student Patrick Pecoraro submitted the winning design. The design was judged not only on its creativity and appeal, but also on as set of criteria designed by the committee judging the entries.

"The design had to be inclusive, local, meaning that it involved UNO and had

familiar symbols and signs," said professor Frank Bramlett, who is coordinating the initiative effort.

Pecoraro's design includes two triangles in the colors of the rainbow. Homosexuals in Nazi-controlled Europe at the order of the Third Reich wore a pink triangle. The symbol was adopted by the gay rights movement as a sign of empowerment. The rainbow is also widely used as a banner for gay

rights.

Pecoraro also used, with permission, Durango, the UNO Maverick mascot in order to give the design proximity.

The Safe Space Initiative was designed

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Mostly Sunny
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News You Can Use

COMPILED BY COLLEEN O'DOHERTY
STAFF WRITER

Book arts exhibition opens

The beauty of books, both ancient and contemporary, is the subject of an exhibition at the St. Cecilia Cathedral Cultural Center.

"The Beauty of the Book," sponsored by the Nebraska Book Arts Center and the Joslyn Art Museum, runs through March 3.

The exhibition, which is free and open to the public, features 80 artifacts that span more than 500 years.

"The Beauty of the Book" is being held in conjunction with "Illuminating The Word; The Saint John's Bible," which runs through April 16 at the Joslyn Art Museum.

The St. Cecilia Cathedral Cultural Center is located at 701 N. 40th St., behind the cathedral with access on Webster Street. The exhibition will be open according to the following schedule:

Tuesday through Friday

11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Sunday

Noon to 4 p.m.

For more information about the exhibition, contact 554-2787.

SPO to host Fine Arts Exposition Jan. 24

The Student Programming Organization will host the first annual Fine Arts Exposition Tuesday, Jan. 24, at UNO. The event will be held from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the Milo Bail Student Center Ballroom and Nebraska

Room. It is free and open to the public.

There also will be a large number of information booths set up to educate UNO and its community about the fine arts in the metro area. Organizations such as the Omaha Symphony, the Omaha Children's Museum, Johnston Photography and the Omaha Community Playhouse will be present, as well as UNO groups like MENC, the UNO Art Gallery and *The Gateway*.

Grand opening for The Speech Center Jan. 25

UNO and the School of Communication will celebrate the grand opening of its newest resource, The Speech Center, Wednesday, Jan. 25. The open house will take place in Room 183, Arts and Sciences Hall from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m.

The Speech Center is a pairing of two resources. The first is the Basic Course Room, which began as a speech lab in 1997.

The room is staffed by Public Speaking Fundamentals instructors prepared to assist students with the entire speech-making process.

The second and newest resource is the Speech Consulting Room in Room 183.

For more information, contact 554-3201 or 554-2253.

Nominations Sought for Faculty Service-Learning Award

Each year, the Service-Learning Academy recognizes one UNO faculty member who exemplifies the effective

practice of service-learning in his or her work. To be nominated, a faculty member must:

- Have demonstrated the ability to develop and teach an effective service-learning course;

- Have been supportive of service-learning at UNO (through attendance at faculty/student presentations, Teaching Circles and by mentoring faculty/students);

- Have demonstrated the capability of developing reciprocal, collaborative relations with community partners and have a thorough understanding and appreciation of community agency issues (professionalism and cultural competency); and

- Hold a full- or part-time teaching appointment with UNO.

The award will be presented at the Faculty Honors Convocation Thursday, April 6, at 7 a.m.

Nomination forms must be delivered to the Service-Learning Academy no later than Wednesday, Feb. 1. You may download a nomination form from the Service-Learning Academy Web site. For more information, call Carlynn Hartman-Kurtz at 554-2712.

Nominations Sought for Student Service-Learning Award

Each year, the Service-Learning Academy recognizes one UNO student who has gone above and beyond the required community engagement in the context of a service-learning class. To be nominated, a

student must:

- Have demonstrated and upheld, in an outstanding way, the key principles of effective academic service-learning;

- Have established and maintained a reciprocal relationship with a community partner;

- Have provided a useful and meaningful community service; and

- Have mastered the course's academic objectives as related to the service performed.

The award will be presented at the Student Honors Convocation Friday, April 7, at 3 p.m.

Nomination forms must be delivered to the Service-Learning Academy no later than Wednesday, Feb. 1. You may download a nomination form from the Service-Learning Academy Web site. For more information, call Carlynn Hartman-Kurtz at 554-2712.

Community of Science information session Jan. 25

The next Community of Science information session will be held Wednesday, Jan. 25, at 1 p.m. in Room 207 of University Library.

The Office of Sponsored Programs and Research hosts these hour-long sessions to provide faculty and graduate students with information about the various COS online resources, including finding funding.

Reservations for the information session are not required. For more information, contact Nancy Schlesiger at 554-2286.

Airmen under investigation at Offutt for visit to Scott Village

CHRIS LARSON
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

A female student living at Scott Village called in a complaint to the Offutt Air Force Base police after an airman she had met online came to her dorm, said Paul Kosel, assistant manager of Campus Security.

"The student decided she didn't

want to meet him anymore, so she called base police," Kosel said.

The incident occurred on Jan. 6. Base police called UNO's Campus Security to file an incident report.

According to Kosel, the base police said the airman has been instructed not to go to UNO's campus, as this was the second time a student reported the airman for unwanted

communication or contact.

Campus Security was instructed to call the police if the airman was found on campus again, Kosel said.

Lt. Matt Miller, with Offutt Air Force Base public affairs, said no information could be released as the incident is still under investigation.

"We are working in conjunction with civil authority to fully investigate this incident," Miller said.

Comments?

Concerns?

Complaints?

Write the Editor at

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THE GATEWAY

THE UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA AT OMAHA'S STUDENT NEWSPAPER SINCE 1913

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The Gateway is published by the University of Nebraska at Omaha Student Publications Committee on Tuesdays and Fridays during the fall and spring semesters and on Tuesdays during the summer sessions.

Advertising inquiries should be directed to the Advertising Manager. Other inquiries and complaints should be directed to the Editor-In-Chief. Copies of the Student Publications Committee inquiry/complaint policy are available at The Gateway's office, Milo Bail Student Center Room 115.

The Gateway is funded as follows: 70 percent advertising revenue, 30 percent student fees allocated by Student Government.

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photo by Michelle Bishop

The Maverick hockey team and the UNO athletic department are hosting the second "Hockey 101 - A Woman's Guide to Hockey" Thursday, Feb. 2 at the Qwest Center.

Hockey 101 gives women a chance

MICHELLE BISHOP
PHOTO EDITOR

The Maverick hockey team and the UNO athletic department are once again offering female hockey enthusiasts the chance to go behind the scenes and broaden their knowledge of the game.

The UNO athletic department is hosting its second "Hockey 101 - A Woman's Guide to Hockey" Thursday, Feb. 2 from 4:30 to 9 p.m. at the Qwest Center. The event will also serve as a benefit for Liz's Legacy and the Diet Pepsi/UNO Women's Walk.

"It's just a great way of educating women and getting them to become better fans in the sport of hockey and it has really taken off and it's exciting," said Deb Denbeck, UNO associate athletic director.

After drawing around 160 women at last year's Hockey 101, Denbeck said she expects many of last year's participants to return since topics of the event have expanded.

Based on the participant's understanding of hockey, they can register for the beginner or advanced session to learn more about aspects of the game. The ladies will get a glimpse of life as a hockey player during demonstrations on the ice and from behind the scenes in the Qwest center.

"It will lend education to both the beginner and to the more advanced hockey fan, so there will be a new little twist that way," Denbeck said. "Every participant is also getting the book *Hockey for Dummies*, which is a great knowledge base book for understanding everything from a-to-z in hockey."

Topics for Hockey 101 include: special teams, offense and defense patterns, officiating and rule knowledge for all levels of hockey, and training and equipment. Panel discussions will also cover recruiting, life as a UNO hockey student-athlete and strategies and superstitions.

The registration fee is \$75 per person,

See **HOCKEY 101**: Page 12

From **RESIGNATIONS**: Page 1

Student Programming Organization, and Student Government.

"Student government gets so much money to allocate," Smith said. "This commission decides where that money goes."

Two students-at-large were also appointed to SABC: Victoria Lansky, sophomore, sociology; and Alexander Williams, current legislative and public relations executive, whose term will expire on Feb. 1.

"I thought joining SABC would be a good way to get involved on campus," Lansky said.

Smith will be the chair of SABC due to the resignation of Executive Treasurer Jordan Baker on Thursday. The vacancy will not be filled until early March.

During his report on the Rules Committee, Speaker Aaron Gilliland admonished senators, reminding them that they were obligated to keep an office hour every week and log it on the official record.

"Get your office hours in," Gilliland said. "Office hours cannot be made up."

Some senators objected to the strict policy regarding logging the hours, which holds senators personally accountable for remembering to mark that they were in

attendance.

"I've been pretty fair about the office hours. The point is the official record is on the door—it's hard to miss," Gilliland said. "You could miss quite a few office hours before you could be impeached."

The senate also voted to pass commendations congratulating the women's soccer team for its national championship and the women's volleyball team for its performance this season. Additionally, the senate expressed its "deepest commendation to bus driver Flo" for her "professionalism and passion toward students."

The session concluded in its usual way with "For the Good of the Order," wherein each member is passed the gavel and allowed to speak his or her mind. Topics were varied but generally focused on the new semester, congratulating Smith and Massara, and thanking Williams for his efforts. Notable digressions included a work-related story involving a woman "wearing only pants," suggestions on how to better advertise open Student Government positions and the impact of race in high school math classrooms.

The next full senate meeting will be on Feb. 2 at 7 p.m., in the Dodge Room of the Milo Bail Student Center.

From **DESIGN**: Page 1

to promote a safe learning and working environment for students, faculty and staff. According to Bramlett, the stickers will be available free of charge to individuals wishing to place them in their offices. Bramlett also said that the university is looking into offering a brief orientation on the correct procedures to follow when an individuals comes to a safe space for assistance.

He said that the stickers will be made available by Spring Break while the committee finalizes the logistics of

purchasing and distributing the stickers.

"Right now we are checking pricing, production and printing (rates). They should be available within six weeks," Bramlett said.

Bramlett said that university administration has been supportive of the initiative and all efforts to include people of all sexual identities.

He said: "The university says there will be no discrimination against any group. The administration is behind the Space Safe Initiative."



Sometimes describing how you got into an accident can be a lot harder than describing how you got out of one.

Tony Schmitz

Insurance Agent, UNO Alumni

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Learning hope from a man who once had none A look into the extraordinary life of Sudanese student Gatong Gatluak

MICHAEL McMANUS

SENIOR STAFF WRITER

"I've had family killed in front of me and saw no justice done—I've seen people die of starvation. There are no challenges in America for me, only opportunities."

These are the words that UNO student Gatong Gatluak so passionately expresses when talking about his life in Sudan. A life foreign to most and far different than any will ever experience, his story is both moving and inspirational, and proves that anything can happen, if you truly believe.

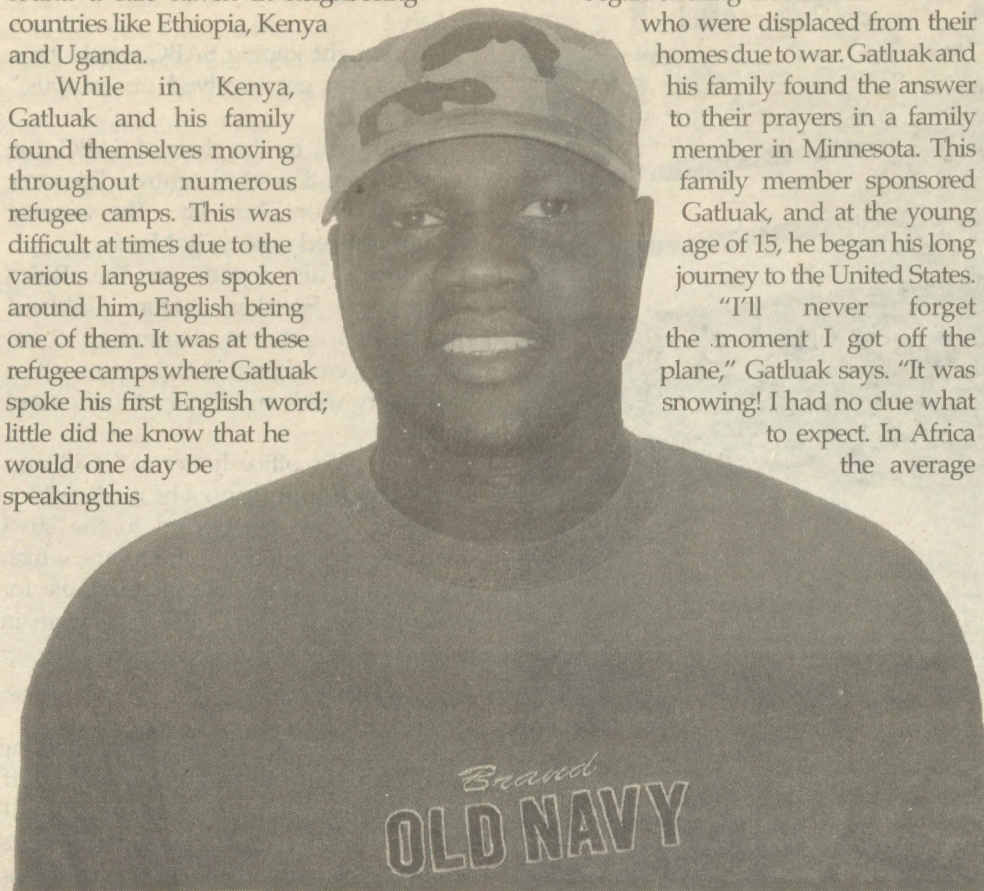
Gatong was born in 1980 in a small village near Itang, a refugee camp. Looking back at his childhood years is no easy task. With the nearest hospital almost a day away, it's easy to understand all the things that could have and did go wrong.

"I break into tears at times when I compare my childhood years to my son's," Gatluak says. "America provides him with everything he needs to grow. I had to deal with famine, disease and never ending tribal wars, he does not. I have lost count of how many times I have stopped to praise God for this fact."

In 1991, his family moved to Kenya to free themselves from the war plaguing his homeland, a war that had been replaying itself since Sudan first got its independence in 1956. The southern Sudanese freedom fighters were in disagreement with the Northern Arabs attempting to force their Islamic beliefs onto them. The war was

too much for most to handle, and many found a safe haven in neighboring countries like Ethiopia, Kenya and Uganda.

While in Kenya, Gatluak and his family found themselves moving throughout numerous refugee camps. This was difficult at times due to the various languages spoken around him, English being one of them. It was at these refugee camps where Gatluak spoke his first English word; little did he know that he would one day be speaking this



language fluently with ease.

After moving around in refugee camps for a few years Gatluak and his family had a once in a lifetime opportunity. The United

States stepped into the refugee camps and began offering resettlement to those who were displaced from their homes due to war. Gatluak and his family found the answer to their prayers in a family member in Minnesota. This family member sponsored Gatluak, and at the young age of 15, he began his long journey to the United States.

"I'll never forget the moment I got off the plane," Gatluak says. "It was snowing! I had no clue what to expect. In Africa the average

with. In America, we go to school, have paying jobs and have opportunities. In Sudan, an education wasn't guaranteed and most of the time not available. There were no paying jobs, and opportunities were nearly non-existent.

"The idea of work and education is still a little foreign to me and many other southern Sudanese individuals," Gatluak admits. "Back home we didn't really have jobs. We would do family work, that's all. Education was never consistent.

"We moved around refugee camps so much that we only got education when it was available. In America, you are born, and destined to go to school. An opportunity those in Sudan rarely get."

While in Minnesota Gatluak attended a semester of middle school and his freshman year in high school before he eventually had the opportunity to relocate closer to his family. His next destination: Omaha, Neb.

This journey wasn't as foreign as the previous. He already had a good understanding of American culture and was ready for what Omaha had in store for him. There were already about 15 Sudanese families in the area, so he found comfort in his local community.

As soon as he settled down, Gatluak began school at Central High school.

"It was an easy adjustment," Gatluak says, "Central is a great school, very diverse, so it wasn't hard fitting in." Gatong graduated in 2000, and found opportunity knocking at his door yet again.

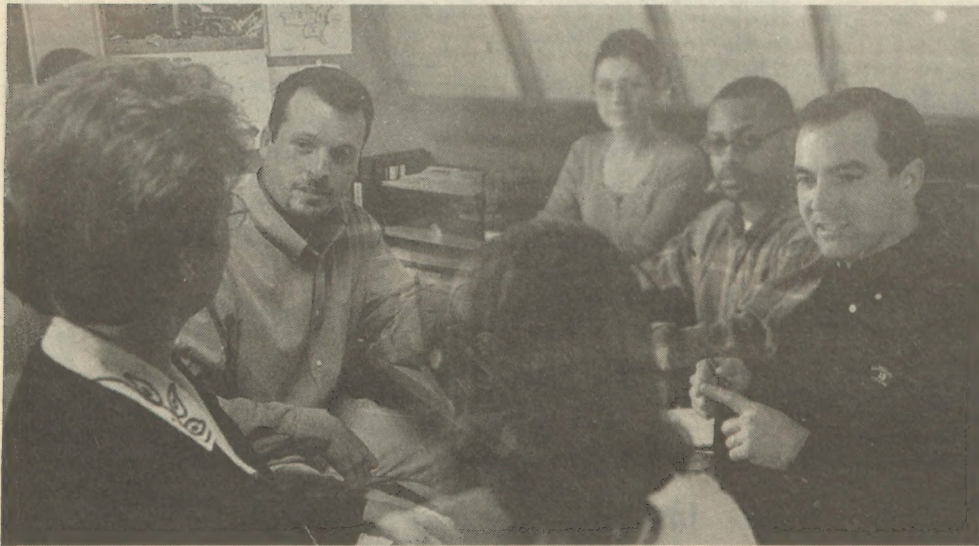
With the help of a Goodrich Scholarship, Gatong took a chance and was accepted to UNO.

"The Goodrich scholarship is the reason I am here, I have them to thank," he says.

See GATLUAK: Page 12

Internship Opportunities

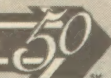
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España: Especially surprising

REVIEW BY MICHAEL McMANUS

SENIOR STAFF WRITER

With the growth that Omaha deals with on a daily basis, it's not surprising that a new restaurant opens nearly every week. West Omaha is filled with so many bars, lounges and fine dining establishments that the consumer often forgets what the rest of Omaha has to offer.

España is one of the exceptions.

Nestled between a shoe shop and a bridal store in Omaha's historic Benson district, España is one restaurant that is in a league of its own.

Why the success? Simple: originality.

Walking up to España can be quite misleading. Its location on 60th and Maple is the first obstacle to get past. It's a nice part of Benson, but not exactly the area you would expect such a fine restaurant.

Walking into España is a completely different story. The ambiance is similar to

any of the restaurants you would find in the Old Market—sophisticated and artistic. With large paintings on the walls, a cutting edge modern bar as the centerpiece and elegant light fixtures on all four walls, it's easy to feel like you've been magically transported to Spain.

As soon my date and I were seated, the decisions began. España serves "tapas." These appetizer-like dishes are found all over Spain. "Tapas," which translates to lids in Spanish, originally were served on drinks. There are two categories to choose from, cold (frio), and hot (caliente). The selections ranged from meatballs, crab cakes, beef tenderloin, potatoes, calamari, mushrooms and shrimp. Since tapas are small, about five selections would feed two people. We opted

for the shrimp, beef tenderloin, fried potatoes with a spicy tomato sauce, bruschetta, and chicken cantiloni.

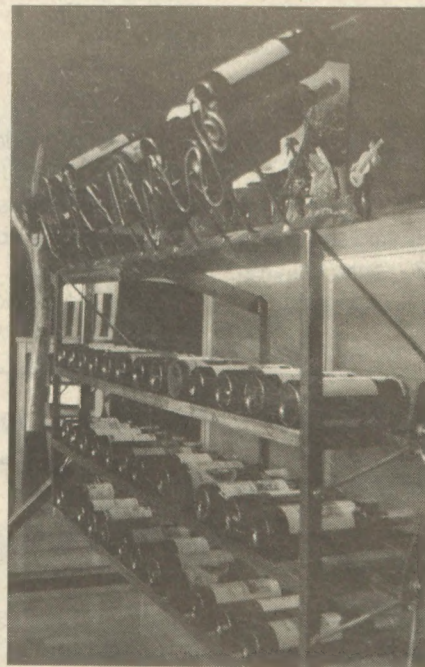


photo by Michelle Bishop

Espana has a vast wine selection.

See España: Page 12

Campus Security

Eppley Administration Building, Rm 100

— Help Us Help You! —

Security

- Buildings are patrolled 24 hours daily.

Personal Safety Checks

- Individuals who may be working alone, outside of normal working hours are encouraged to contact Campus Security. Security officers will periodically check on your safety while you are on campus.

Extras

- Campus Security provides assistance to motorists 24 hours daily, to jump-start your vehicle, open a locked vehicle, and change a tire in certain situations, for vehicles on campus only

Emergency Messages

- Should your family or friends need to have an emergency message delivered while you are in class or on campus, have them contact Campus Security. Emergency messages will be delivered in case of a medical emergency or a matter of life or death.

Personal Escorts

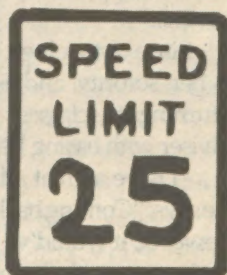
- The escort service is available for individuals any time at their request while on campus. Contact Campus Security at 554-2648 to arrange for the escort.

Emergency Procedures

- The University emergency number is 4-2911.
- There are telephones on campus that can be used to report an emergency.

Suspicious Persons or Crimes in Progress

- Should you witness a crime in progress, or other emergency, use the campus emergency number 4-2911.



Please Obey the Signs!

Parking & Traffic

- Shuttle service is provided from the South Campus lots 5, 6, 7 and 9—*permit required*.
- Remote parking is provided from the Crossroads Parking Structure at 72nd and Cass Streets—*no permit required*.
- Contact Campus Security for a shuttle schedule and remote parking locations.

Lost and Found

- Campus Security maintains the lost and found system. Contact Campus Security for lost items.

Fingerprints

- The Campus Security Department provides a fingerprinting service for individuals who require fingerprints for local, state and federal positions and for children of students, staff, faculty and alumni.

Blue light Emergency Phones

- Blue Light Emergency Phones are located throughout campus. Use the phones to report emergencies or to contact Campus Security for assistance.

Operation I.D.

- Your stereo tape-deck, calculator, or other personal belongings may be engraved to aid in finding lost or stolen property.
- Stop by the Campus Security Office and check out an engraver and instructions to engrave your property.

Medical Emergency/Personal Injury

- Call 4-2911 to report a medical emergency or a personal injury. Campus Security officers will respond and render assistance.
- Campus Security officers are trained to provide basic first aid, CPR and the use of an A.E.D. (Automatic External Defibrillator).

University Building Keys

- Campus Security is responsible for the control of the University key system.
- Eligible University employees should make requests for University keys through their department chairperson to Campus Security.

Theft or Damaged Property

- Should you have items stolen or damaged, report the incident as soon as possible to Campus Security.

See Campus Security Home Page

(www.unomaha.edu/security) for Campus Safety Alerts!

Campus Security • 554-2648

The changing face of the American veteran

AMANDA GOREY
SENIOR STAFF WRITER

It used to be that the word veteran invoked images of WWII- and Vietnam-era veterans marching and displaying colors in parades, a proud reminder of our American past. However, today's veterans aren't limited to the baby boomer generation and beyond. UNO's student veteran population ranges from students as young as 18 to those in their 50s.

"Our students receiving benefits range from veterans using their GI Bill, reservists and national guardsmen and women, vocational rehabilitation and children and spouses of veterans who are 100 percent disabled or deceased," says Sheryl Kuhr, Veteran Services coordinator.

A simple cross section of the university's demographics sheds light on the changing face of veterans in the United States. In the current 2005-06 academic year, the campus population of 902 veterans includes 538 full-time, 123 part-time and 91 student veterans enrolled less than part time.

Kristen Leigh Fuchser is a junior studying journalism with a news editorial emphasis. This 21-year-old student is also known as Sgt. Fuchser in the Army Reserve. Her overseas experience included more than just the adjustment from student to soldier.

"I'm originally with the 456th Transportation Detachment in Omaha, but for my deployment, another soldier and I were involuntarily 'cross-leveled' to the 450th Movement Control Battalion in Manhattan, Kan.," she says. "I was leaving my family and friends, going into a foreign and threatening place with very few females. I was the youngest female in a unit I didn't even know. I was extremely emotional."

Korey Brunken received his Bachelor of Science degree in Geology in December. Brunken, now 25, also serves in the Army Reserve 530th Military Police Battalion. At 22, he was deployed to Iraq from January 2003 until April 2004.

Jamee Clasen is a junior studying journalism. In addition to her student endeavors, she serves with the Army National Guard 313th Medical Company. Clasen, now 22, has been in the National Guard for four and a half.

"I joined in 2001, right after high school," Clasen says. "I went to Army Medical School to become a medic, then got deployed on

Oct. 5th. I arrived in Iraq on Nov. 28, 2004, and just returned home Nov. 1."

In light of recent global events, many students have been called to active duty while in the middle of their studies. The university tries to assist with this transition as much as possible. One of the first questions regarding deployment and a student involves tuition. "Students are asked to provide a copy of their orders to the registrar's office. Then the university will withdraw them at 100 percent," Kuhr says. "The tuition is always refunded."

It seems that many student soldiers had advanced notice of deployment so they knew not to register for classes, while other students were in the midst of classes and only had a few days to get their affairs in order.

Clasen was one of the "lucky" ones. "We knew we were getting deployed, so I didn't register for fall," she says. "When I returned, they made me re-register, though. I had to sign up for classes with all of the incoming freshmen, which I didn't think was right at all."

Brunken was not so lucky. He was deployed with limited notice.

"We had about 72 hours to get our finances (loan deferments, rent, school), work and personal issues in order," he says.

While Brunken has found the university's VA and student accounts offices to be helpful with benefits assistance, he cannot say the same about some of his campus experiences regarding his deployment withdrawal, citing flaws in both policies and attitudes.

"I was called up during the first week of classes January of 2003," Brunken says. "The UNO Bookstore was unhappy about refunding the textbooks, and asked if I would just like to keep them for 'next year.' They did eventually refund the money. The admissions office acted as if they were doing us a favor."

Fuchser also deployed mid-semester.

"I had already been going to class for four weeks and living in the dorms, then on Feb. 10, I 'got the call' and had to be moved out, withdrawn from classes, packed, and in Kansas by Feb. 14," she says. "It was chaotic but I got it done with the help of my family."

Her withdrawal process on campus went fairly smoothly.

"It was actually pretty easy," she says. "I had to give the school and University Village a copy of my orders and sign some form, UNO is very supportive of the military. Since my tuition is paid 100 percent by the Reserves, I wasn't out any money except my books and I was able to return them at the book store for a full refund. I was very happy about that."

One problem

experienced upon returning was time away from the classroom.

"It took some time to familiarize myself with coursework I had completed prior to leaving," Brunken says. "I had forgotten quite a bit."

Clasen agrees.

"I got behind in classes, obviously, but it's not a big deal," she says. "I will finish when I finish, and find no reason to rush. My job was there for me when I returned, so that wasn't difficult. The main issues we faced were emotional ones. It was very hard leaving my friends and family. It was the hardest on my poor mom."

Campus adjustments are not the only thing the students have had to face. Veterans are not just returning to campus, they are returning from combat in a place vastly different from home.

"The most shocking thing I have ever seen was not in Iraq," Brunken admits. "It wasn't even on television. My first weekend drill after

really help being deployed."

Even time away from the classroom can have a positive spin.

"People who graduated high school when I did were now a year or more ahead of me, and that was and still is a bit intimidating," Fuchser says. "But I try to remember that I have probably experienced something they will never get the opportunity to do, and I know that I am much more mature now than I was before. And that school doesn't have to be completed in four years, I can go at my



photo by Caelan Miller

A memorial for UNO veterans sits below the clocktower between the Strauss and library buildings.

returning home, I was traveling home, in uniform, when a sedan riding my bumper suddenly sped around me on the driver side of my Cavalier. The driver flashed a universal sign and screamed something at me. As he cut me off and sped away, all that my mind could process was the image of a yellow 'Support the Troops' magnet on his bumper."

Since returning, Clasen has returned to her sorority and is looking forward to returning to classes. She also credits her adviser with easing her transition.

"I have a great adviser, so that helped," she says. "Coming back has not been difficult. However, it would've been nice to not have to sign up with freshmen since I couldn't

own pace.

"I came back in March of 2004, so the spring term was just wrapping up," Fuchser said. "All my friends were away at college and I was going nutty living at my parents' house, I felt out of the loop. Everyone was going on about their business and I didn't know where I fit in anymore. So I immediately registered for three summer classes at Metro. Then I picked up at UNO that fall."

"I chose to talk to a therapist outside of school to help with my readjusting," Fuchser admits. "I would recommend everyone coming from deployment to have some sort of support group they can count on even if they don't think they need one."

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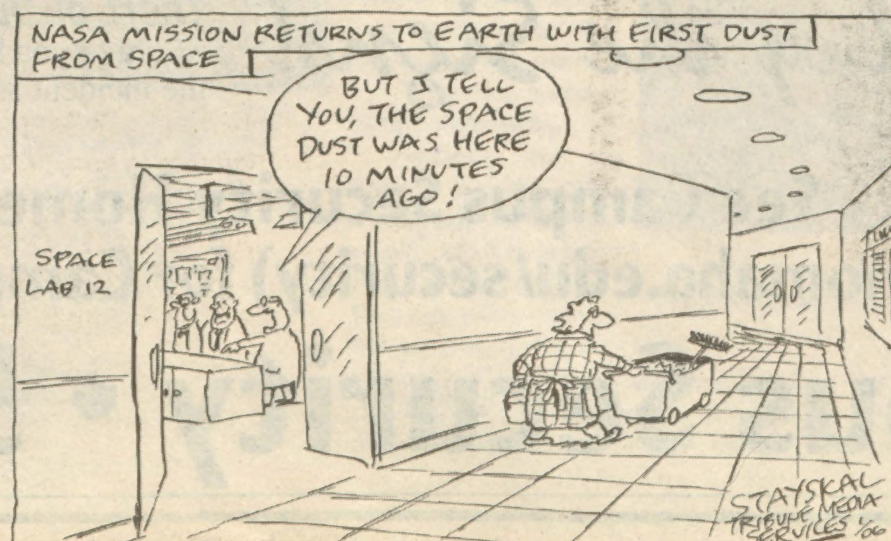
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Kaufmann bounces back to force split with Spartans

NATHAN LEETE
SPORTS EDITOR

Friday night Michigan State's Colton Fetter scored one minute and 43 seconds into overtime to defeat UNO's hockey team 4-3. However, UNO goalie Jerad Kaufmann bounced back and forced a split with 36 saves in Saturday's 3-2 win.

Friday's win was enough to pull the Spartans up to third place in a very close Central Collegiate Hockey Association, while the Mavericks dropped to ninth in the league despite Saturday's win. Even though the Mavericks are ranked ninth, there are only three points separating them from the top four spots and a first round bye in the CCHA playoffs.

The Spartans put the first goal on the net when MSU's David Booth scored on a power

play just 2:39 into the game Saturday night. UNO's Bill Bagron answered with a one-timer just 16 seconds later to knot the game up 1-1.

MSU's Chris Mueller continued the scoring frenzy getting another puck past Kaufmann at the 6:52 mark on an even strength opportunity. UNO's Adam Bartholomay tied the game at 2-2 with a goal as the clock dropped to 19 seconds in the first period.

Ethan Graham put the Spartans up 3-2 with the only goal of the second period on a wrist shot.

Alex Nikiforuk scored his seventh goal of the season, coming up with a loose puck during a scrum in front of the goal with 11:50 left in the game to tie the score 3-3.

The game went into overtime until Fetter scored 1:43 into the period to end the game.

The Mavericks fired off 44 shots to tie a season high, but it wasn't enough to get past the Spartans.

MSU drew first blood once again Saturday when David Booth hit an open Bryan Lerg with 15 seconds left on the power play at the 7:57 mark. Lerg snuck the puck past Kaufmann to give the Spartans a 1-0 lead.

UNO didn't let the lead



photo by Michelle Bishop

Tomas Klempa skates by the Maverick bench to celebrate his shorthanded goal during the second period of Saturday's game. The Mavericks defeated the Spartans 3-2.

last long. Kaleb Betts scored from between the circles at the 9:45 mark off assists by Nikiforuk and Bartholomay to tie things up. Bill Thomas connected from inside the circle just 1:01 after Betts to give UNO its first lead of the series. MSU tried to tie things up several times, but Kaufmann made some spectacular saves to keep the Spartans at bay.

The Mavericks extended their lead to 3-1 15:23 into the second stanza when Scott Parse picked up a takeaway in the neutral zone and hit Tomas Klempa outside the left crease.

Klempa fired the puck past MSU goalie Jeff Lerg to take the 3-1 lead.

The Spartans weren't going away just yet. With 6:34 remaining, Booth hit an open Jim McKenzie in front of Kaufmann. McKenzie's shot snuck through to the net to give the Spartans hope at a comeback. Both teams fired off a barrage of shots in the closing minutes, but the Mavericks held on to pick up the win.

The Mavericks will travel to the great North this weekend to face Alaska-Fairbanks on the road in a two-game CCHA series.



photo by Michelle Bishop

Scott Parse collides with Michigan State's David Booth during Saturday's game.

Kapels' back-to-back 23 point performances lead men's hoops

NATHAN LEETE
SPORTS EDITOR

Senior guard Calvin Kapels put up a season-high 23 points in back-to-back games last week. Kapels led the UNO men's basketball team to a come-from-behind home victory over South Dakota Thursday night, and an easy win over Upper Iowa Saturday night.

The Coyotes led the Mavericks 39-35 at halftime of Thursday's game at the Sapp Fieldhouse. UNO held South Dakota scoreless for four minutes to start the second half but still trailed 42-39 with 16 minutes left in the game.

Over the next four minutes, the Mavericks went on a 17-4 run, including five points and two assists from

Kapels. Zac Robinson and Grant Nieland each hit three-pointers as the Mavericks took

their biggest lead of the game 80-63 with 3:27 left on the clock.

USD's Eric Hall hit a pair of threes in the final minute to close the gap, but Jamaal Byers, Denny Johnston and Kapels combined to hit nine free throws in the closing minutes of the game to pick up the 87-80 win.

Ryan Curtis put up 15 points for UNO, Robinson contributed 14 and Johnston added 12. Kapel's 23 were two points shy of his career single game record.

Five Mavericks put up double-digits against a lowly Upper Iowa Saturday night to coast to a 99-77 win.

The Mavericks put up 11 points before Upper Iowa found the scoreboard, and shot 57.7 percent in the first half to take a 53-37 lead into halftime.

UNO opened the second half with a 9-2 run to stretch the lead to 62-39 after four minutes. The Peacocks chipped away to pull within



photo by J Parker Adair

Calvin Kapels scored a season-high 23 points in back-to-back games last week.

See MEN'S BASKETBALL: Page 8

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Women's basketball skid broken with back-to-back wins

LIZ SELZER
SENIOR STAFF WRITER

The UNO women's basketball team (14-6, 1-3) snapped their four-game losing streak by taking down South Dakota and Upper Iowa in the Sapp Fieldhouse this past weekend.

Toni Kinsey was on fire Thursday night with a season-high 21 points against the Coyotes. She led the team to a 74-60 victory.

Coach Patty Patton Shearer said Kinsey had complete reconstructive knee surgery two years ago and is fighting stress fractures in both of her shins.

"Toni is a great player," Shearer said, "It certainly was great timing for her to get back in her rhythm."

There were a total of nine lead changes within the first half. The Coyotes thought they would go into halftime on top, but it was Kinsey that hit a buzzer, beating three to put the Mavericks up 32-29. Kinsey gave the 700 attendees at the Sapp Fieldhouse a show in the first half as she hit four of six behind the arc and put down 16 points in the first half alone.

South Dakota came out of the break ready to play, as Bridget Yoergerm hit a jumper to put the Coyotes on top. The Mavs heated things up by going on an 8-0 run, topped off by a three-point play from JJ Smith. The Coyotes would never claim the scoreboard again.

The Mavericks took their biggest lead of the game, 60-45, by going on a 19-6 run with eight minutes left on the clock. There was a lot of fouling in the last 1:39 to play, but the Mavs claimed the victory.

Ashley Freerksen added 15 points and seven rebounds, Lacey Geitzenhauer

13 points and Smith 10 points to go with eight rebounds for the Mavericks, who improved their home record to 8-2.

Kinsey, a junior guard from Florence, Colo., finished the game 5 for 9 behind the arc, hitting all but one of UNO's three-point shots.

While the Mavericks were on a high, breaking the four-game losing streak with the win against South Dakota, Shearer was thinking about the future.

"We need to continue building on this win, enjoy it, but move on," Shearer said. "We have a regional opponent coming in on Saturday (Upper Iowa), so we need to be mentally prepared for practice on Friday."

The Mavericks were definitely prepared for Upper Iowa when they came in the Sapp Fieldhouse soaring to an 82-52 non-conference win.



LaCheryl Prince and the Mavericks are on a two game winning streak.

photo by Michelle Bishop

Juniors Freerksen and Geitzenhauer each scored 14 points and pulled down seven rebounds. Senior forward Smith added 13 points, boosting her to 1,151 career points, placing her 11th on the 1,000 point chart at UNO.

The Mavericks

hope to continue this two-game win streak as they return to North Central Conference action hosting St. Cloud State Thursday Jan. 26th at 6:00 p.m. at the Sapp Fieldhouse.

With only nine games left in the season, the Mavs are in the run to make post-season action.

"We have great depth on our team and that will become very important as the season continues to progress," Shearer said. "We have to continue to improve as a team and compete every night out."

Garcia makes quick work of opponents at Brand Open

JASON GLENN
STAFF WRITER

It would take longer to bake a potato in a microwave than it took Cody Garcia to win three wrestling matches Saturday.

Garcia pinned three of his opponents in a combined seven minutes 55 seconds to win the 125-pound weight class and be named outstanding wrestler of the Brand Open at the Sapp Fieldhouse.

The only wrestler to go the distance with Garcia was Nick Ramirez of Wyoming, who Garcia



Garcia Cody

See **WRESTLING**: Page 12

Relay breaks record, qualifies for nationals

LIZ SELZER
SENIOR STAFF WRITER

The UNO track and field 4x400 relay team claimed gold and set a school record at the Ward Haylett Invitational, hosted by Doane College on Saturday.

Karin Clarkson, Rebekah Hughes, Magda Orzylowski and Laverne Monger make up the lighting fast relay team that burned the competition with a time of three minutes, 45.39 seconds. While they set a school record and won the race, the time is also an automatic qualifier for the NCAA II national meet.

The Mavericks saw some familiar faces as they went up against competition like Nebraska-Lincoln, Iowa State, Drake, Air Force and South Dakota.

Three other Mavs took home gold: Foluso Makeinde won titles in both the long jump (19 feet, 6 1/4 inches) and the triple jump (38-4). Angela Kampschnieder won the 800 meter run (2:23.10) and Sarah Zeisler took first place in the 1,000 meter run with a time of 3:05.07.

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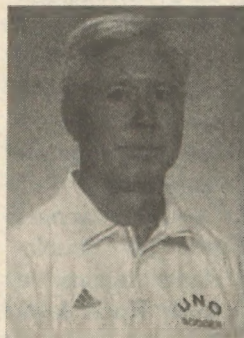
Klosterman named Coach of the Year

LIZ SELZER
SENIOR STAFF WRITER

Maverick's women's soccer coach, Don Klosterman, was named Division II coach of the year on Friday.

Klosterman received the honor at the National Soccer Coaches Association of America Awards Banquet in Philadelphia.

Klosterman led his team to a NCAA Division II National Championship last December, and is the only NCAA II coach to have directed a team into the final four for the past four years. The St. Louis, Mo., native also directed the team to five North



Don Klosterman

Central Conference championships.

Seven years ago, Don Klosterman came to UNO to coach the first Mavericks women's soccer team in history. It was also his first time coaching a women's team.

Since then, Klosterman has compiled an impressive 124-26-4 overall record, a 47-9-1 North Central Conference mark and a 13-3-1 NCC post-season tournament record.

Klosterman graduated from Benedictine in 1974, and then coached their men's soccer team from 1979-83. He moved on to Creighton

were he coached the Bluejays' men's team from 1984-86. The busy Klosterman also attended graduate school at UNO and graduated with a master's degree in 1985. After just two years Klosterman decided to slow down and coached at Omaha's Millard South High School from 1987-97.

The Mavericks defeated Seattle Pacific in overtime, 2-1, for the national championship on Dec. 3.

"We're awfully proud of Don and what he and his team was able to accomplish this year," David Herbster, UNO's athletics director, said in a press release. "He is very deserving of the award and I think it says a lot about the man who has literally built the soccer program here from the ground up."

From **MEN'S BASKETBALL**: Page 7

80-66 with 6:30 left on the clock, but then Kapels hit a three and Curtis connected with two more in less than two minutes.

Kapels put up 23 points, 10 rebounds and shot 14-for-18 from the

line to lead the Mavs. Robinson nailed four-of-five threes to tie his season high with 19 points. Curtis put up 15 points, Byers 11 and Johnston 10. The Mavericks saw points from 10 different players during the game.

UNO improved its record to 13-9 for the season and will ride a three-game winning streak as it hosts St. Cloud State in a North Central Conference match up Thursday night at the Sapp Fieldhouse at 8 p.m.



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“American Idol”: Nothing idle about season five

MICHAEL McMANUS

FEATURES/ENTERTAINMENT ASSISTANT EDITOR

Nearly 100,000 hopefuls lined up outside stadiums, hotels and convention centers with one thing on their minds: to become the next American Idol.

Since the summer of 2002, “American Idol” has dominated prime time television on a constant basis. The show has turned out five multi-platinum artists (Kelly Clarkson, Clay Aiken, Ruben Studdard, Fantasia Barrino and Carrie Underwood), while becoming a staple in modern-day pop culture.

Last year, more than a billion votes were received throughout the season, making “American Idol” the No. 1 show in America. This year appears to be no different.

Fifty-five million viewers tuned in to the season premiere of “American Idol,” season five, on Tuesday.

Zachory Klebba, a UNO freshman was one of them. “I get excited for this show every season.

I literally revolve my schedule around it and turn my phone off while it’s on. The show is genius. I enjoy watching the talent, but who doesn’t love getting a good laugh at the expense of others?” Klebba said.

Ryan Seacrest returned as the host, and Paula Abdul, Randy Jackson and the harsh Simon Cowell are back, stronger than ever, as the judges.



carrieunderwood.com

Carrie Underwood, winner of American Idol season four, sings her heart out to the judges and millions of fans watching nationwide.

The two-hour season premiere which aired on Tuesday and Wednesday of last week showed this season had a lot for the viewer to look forward to. There was, of course, an abundance of talent, but with that also came those unfortunately less musically-inclined.

Dave Hoover, a contestant who claims to have the power to talk to animals, was one of these contestants.

Hoover is 28-years-old from Wexford Pennsylvania, and seemed to have an itch for fast movement. He sang an original piece, while dancing and shaking, often resembling an individual seen in a movie dealing with exorcisms. He was bad, but went through to the next round. “American Idol” knows what the viewers tune in for and in

this case it worked. Could he be the next William Hung?

Hoover aside, the talent this season is definitely stronger than ever, especially with the men.

Executive Producer Nigel Lythgoe recently did a phone interview with the press and revealed that “this year’s boys are by far the best that we have had. Perhaps not the best lookers, but best voices.”

Lythgoe also promises more drama from the judges and contestants.

The gentle idols of years gone by seem to be nowhere in sight. Lythgoe says some of these idols fight, curse and march off the stage whenever a judge says something they don’t want to hear.

“Everyone seems to have more attitude. I don’t know how to put this

nicely. I’ve never seen people willing to [dump] on other people as much as this crowd,” he said.

Normally the contestants act like they love each other, but not this year.

Tune into “American Idol” on Fox every Tuesday and Wednesday at 7 p.m. to watch contestants make, and most importantly, break their singing careers.

Hip Hop Notes

BRIAN CASE
STAFF WRITER

What it do?

Eminem is renewing his vows with Kim Mathers yet again. Members of G-Unit and D12 were all in attendance. And 50 Cent showed up to get his drink on.

The perpetual soap opera that is Slim and Kim started in 1999 when they first got hitched. It all ended in 2001 with their first divorce which started the custody battles over Haley which Slim makes numerous lyrical references to in his songs. They got back together in late 2004 and it’s been all good since. But don’t hold your breath, something is telling me this marriage isn’t permanent.

50 Cent will be moving from “In Da Club” to “In Da Courthouse” after being sued by former 2 Live Crew member Uncle Luke for allegedly stealing rhymes. Uncle Luke released the song “It’s Your Birthday” on his 1994 CD *Still A Freak For Life*. And 50 is accused of ripping the song “I Like It, I Love It” from Uncle Luke.

Juvenile recently had some words for President George W. Bush in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina. Juvenile, a New Orleans native, lost his home in the tragedy and is using his new video for “Get Ya Hustle On/What’s Happenin’” to show people how inhumanely the victims of the hurricane were treated. Juvenile was also arrested Jan. 13 for not paying child support.

P. Diddy’s new cologne is too hot to handle. Advertisements for his new

fragrance show him in the bed with two women. His ads are banned from Harlem and most Midwestern bible-belt states. P. Diddy says that he’s getting heat because people don’t understand his true message. The cologne Unforgivable, run by Estee Lauder, will have more store-friendly ads shot in response to all the criticism.

E-40’s 12th album, *My Ghetto Report Card*, will feature Lil’ Jon, Kanye West and Rick Rock. The album will drop sometime in March and feature the single “Tell Me When.” The music video for “Tell Me When” will feature the hyphy music scene. Don’t know nothing about hyphy? I’ll let my man E-40 explain:

“Hyphy music is like crunk, but in a more up-tempo way. The culture is a way of life for Bay [Area] kids... we just actin’ a fool expressing ourselves. You’ve got to see it to believe it,” E-40 said.

From the window to the wall, to the trailer park we go as we check in on Kevin Federline. Apparently he doesn’t want to be called K-Fed. “PopoZão,” the single to his new untitled album was produced by Disco D, who produced 50 Cent’s *Ski Mask Way*.

Make sure you check out “Celebrity Fit Club” on VH1. Bizarre from D12 is trying to cut a few pounds by eating right and working out. This show brings Bizarre into a catch-22 situation though, as he is known for the comical size of his stomach. We will have to see how well Bizarre performs knowing that he could lose his gimmick.

Keep yo’ head up and respect yourself, cya’ later, and until next time.

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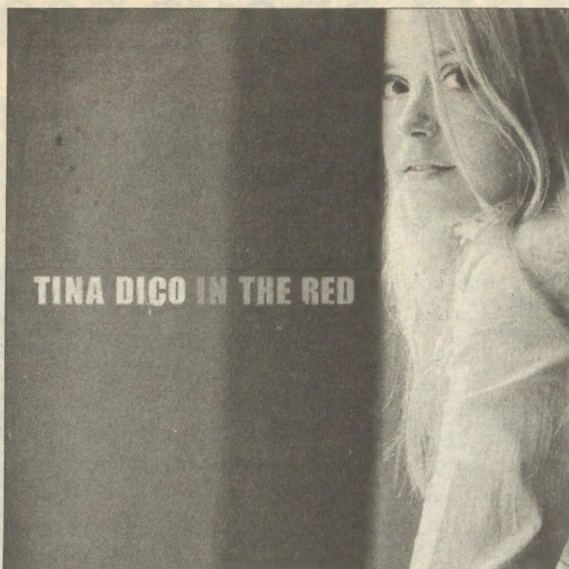
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CHARLEY REED
MAVRADIO STAFF

What is it about women from across the pond? Seriously, I'm asking. In the last 10 years you've had success from female-lead bands like t.A.t.U, Ladytron, and the Ravonettes, but the big boom has been in solo artists with huge success coming for artists like Enya, Jem, Dido, Sia and once again Europe had struck gold with the solo-release of Zero-7 collaborator Tina Dico.

Tina Dico is a 27-year-old singer who has managed some amazing accomplishments in her short career including winning a best-songwriter Grammy, being

TINA DICO IN THE RED



voted Best Composer at the Danish Music Critics Awards, and even besting Coldplay and

Kingdom entitled *In the Red*. The album is already on BBC Radio and has scored a hit with

U2 by reaching No.1 before they did in Denmark. Oh, and did I forget to mention that she's done all of this by herself and without corporate support?

Already being able to retire a success, Tina Dico looks to take the next leap in her musical career by releasing her first solo album in both the United States and the United

her first single "Warm Sand." "Warm Sand" plays mostly on Dico's folk upbringing, creating a mix of an ambient ballad and a Shania Twain-like country rock song. Dico's voice is displayed beautifully here, but while the song may be commercially viable, there are much better tracks that highlight Dico's range.

"Losing" is the opening track from *In the Red* and it is easily one of amazing tracks on the album, possibly the best song all together. Many of Dico's predecessors have had similar releases like Dido's "Thank You" or Jem's "Come on Closer," but Dico takes the tone of her song down several notches and showcases a very strong voice over a hauntingly melodic mix of piano and drums.

"Give In" is an interesting track off the release because it sounds almost pulled straight from Alanis Morissette's "Ironic" but has such a unique folk sound and her voice's range from high to low make it her own. It would seem that "Give In" is likely to become Dico's next single; possibly the first one released in the U.S. and with good reason, "Give In" is addictively good.

"In the Red," the namesake track of the release is much more soul driven almost to an Aimee

Mann quality. The song is a love song where a woman is head over heels for her love interest and how she can see through his mistakes and faults.

This would definitely be a perfect single release for Dico because it really seems personal and universal, but more than anything it is tied together beautifully by Dico's chilling vocals.

The last track of mention on *In the Red* is a song called "One," where Dico once again ranges from soft and soulful to booming and folksy and stands on par with any of the best Shania Twain or Jem releases. What is really impressive about this song are the instrumentals put behind her voice which seem to work in unison to get a perfect baseline and bridge for this slow and powerful track.

It is really disingenuous to say that there are only five good tracks on Tina Dico's solo debut because it is hard to find a bad track... there are literally no tracks on this album which are even mediocre, because of Dico's voice and masterful songwriting, each song has as much impact as the one proceeding or following it.

It is safe to say that Tina Dico has already come far in her music career, but if *In the Red* is any indication, at 27, she may just be getting started.

Artist: Tina Dico

Album: In The Red

Label: Defend Music

Key Tracks: Losing, Warm Sand, Give In, In The Red, One

Release Date: Jan. 24, 2006

COLOR ME HUMAN DIVERSITY WEEK

JANUARY 30 - FEBRUARY 3

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Tue Jan 31: Poetry Open Mic
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Noon-1, Nebraska Room

Wed Feb 1: Barbee Cain
Henna Art Demonstration
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Thurs Feb. 2: Jesus "Chuy" Negrete,
Latino Musician
Noon-1, Nebraska Room
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Latina American Studies (OLLAS)

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More tips for college starters

At the beginning of last semester, I wrote a column featuring my five top tips for incoming freshmen. These were words of advice coming from an eighth-year senior, someone who's just about as old-school as you can get.

I've probably made just about every mistake you can make in college, but I've learned from those mistakes. I've figured out the game, so to speak. In hindsight, I don't think that just five tips were near enough, considering all the things I've learned throughout the years.

So here are five more tips, designed to enable you—the freshman or sophomore—to avoid the mistakes I did during my early years at UNO.

To recap, my top five tips of last semester were:

5. Wake up before the crack of noon.
4. Go to class.
3. Turn studying into something you look forward to.
2. More sex, less relationships.
1. Don't try to graduate in four years.

If you'd like more clarification on those five tips, go to UNOGateway.com and search "Bashara college tips."

And now, five more tips:

5. Don't buy textbooks at the school bookstore unless you have to. Unless you like getting screwed, that is. Each semester, tons of students eagerly run to the bookstore and drop loads of unnecessary cash on books because they don't realize that there are many alternatives. The easiest (although not the cheapest) is the Big O Bookstore on 72nd and Pacific. There you'll usually save around 5 to 10 percent—sometimes more—on textbooks.

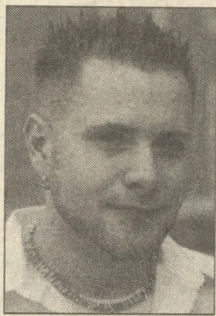
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Also, be sure to hit up eBay. Sometimes a college kid will put up a \$100 book for \$20, as was the case with my Intro to Psychology book this semester.

4. Don't get sucked in to all those back to school supplies. My first few years at UNO, I would literally spend almost \$50 per semester on all these stupid school supplies. I'd buy a binder for every class, multiple folders, tons of highlighters, pens, pencils, planners and all that other garbage.

Know what I bought at the start of this semester? A five-subject notebook for \$3. That's it. Pens are all over the place—it's really not like you need to buy them. I use a digital planner on my laptop, and I re-use my highlighters instead of buying "fresh" ones each semester. Later, if I find out I need more stuff like folders, I'll buy them. But I never start out a semester with anything more than a five-subject notebook. Save some money and do the same. Think about it. Do you *really* need all that extra crap going to waste in your backpack?

Manic Digression



Josh Bashara

3. Don't max out your student loans unless you realize what you're doing. When I turned 24, the financial aid office stopped using my parents' financial info to base my aid on. It'll be the same for you if you're still in school by the time you turn 24.

When that happens, you can really get a lot of money. That first year, I was offered almost \$4,000 cash—*outside* of tuition—in extra aid money per semester. That was \$4,000 per semester to do whatever I wanted with, which I basically used as spending money so I didn't have to work that much. The money kept increasing as my year in school did and each year, I'd max it all out just so I could take an easy ride.

Now I'm in debt a little more than I'd like to be, and I'm going to owe some hefty monthly payments after graduation. In retrospect, I really wish that I hadn't taken so much out. I could have just worked an extra 10 hours per week and I would have been fine.

But on the flipside of that, those financial aid checks saved my butt a few times, like when I needed a new engine for my car. And because the interest is so low on student loans, you can consolidate your higher-interest credit cards into your student loans to save some money in the long run.

But unless you have a really good reason for doing so, play it safe and don't max it. You'll feel a lot better when you graduate and don't have to immediately start making payments.

2. Get involved. Especially if you weren't involved in high school, college is like a second chance. It's a chance to not make the same mistakes you did before. It's a chance to take those regrets you have for all those missed opportunities and turn them into experiences.

I was like a ghost in high school. I had my group of friends, but beyond that, I was pretty much disconnected from every aspect of school. I'm not even in my senior yearbook. Yeah, how messed-up is that?

So halfway through college, I began to really get involved in organizations and activities, and I'm so glad that I did. I've been able to make up for lost time and missed experiences. In fact, I even ran for homecoming king last fall—something I would have never in a million years thought I'd ever be doing back in high school.

So get involved. Forge those memories. Don't let *your* second chance get away.

1. Date now, and often. Throughout your college career, you won't realize until later that going to school is pretty much like a smorgasbord of dating potential.

Never again will you be surrounded by so many girls and guys amidst the height of their sexual urges. College doubles as one big meat market. You think you're going to be up to your ears in ready-and-willing coeds after graduation, sitting in your cubicle in the accounts receivable office? Or at the happy hour dive bars, flooded with desperate 30-somethings looking for a husband/wife?

Sate those sexual yearnings now, before you're left with slim pickings. Just remember to be safe. Nothing can halt your college career faster than a bright-eyed bundle of joy, or the dark reality of a sexually transmitted disease.

Barbie: Don't let her boobs fool you

Mattel's popular doll, Barbie, has seen its fair share of criticism. The blond bombshell often gets ripped apart for her bountiful breasts, flawless physique and her unique sense of style. I mean how many other girls can pull off the Malibu look, Gothic glam and mermaid attire with as much ease as her. Although these criticisms seem to be the most well known, it seems I have forgotten to list one. One that came up recently and caught myself and many others by surprise. Apparently Barbie is now considered a tool and a threat in encouraging the "transgender movement."

The Concerned Women of America (a group promoting biblical values) recently released this statement on Dec. 30 after discovering some shattering information on the Barbie Web site. Allegedly, there was a questionnaire that asked the visitor one simple question. "Are you a boy, girl, or I don't know."

According to the group, the toy's manufacturer has "overstepped a line," by joining forces with the transgender movement. The group is now encouraging its members and other religious groups to boycott Mattel and all Barbie products.

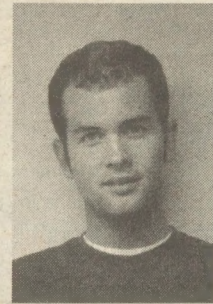
When Mattel was contacted about the issue they quickly gave a response stating that it was an error and was intended to say "I don't want to say." The Concerned Women of America still don't find this option acceptable and continue to urge the boycott.

First of all, let's clarify something. I may be gay, but I never played with Barbies, thank you. With that said I think this whole situation including the group accusing Mattel is absolutely out of line. Then again, should we be surprised? It was a similar group who boycotted Mattel when they began creating the American Girl doll line, and supported Girls Inc., an organization that has pro-life views and openly supports lesbian couples.

I think that having a neutral answer similar to "not sure," or "I don't want to say," is extremely important in situations like these. Some individuals, as you may know, just don't fit into the cookie cutter stereotypes of these two genders. Choosing male or female isn't as simple as we might assume.

To fully understand this situation it is extremely important to remember that gender identity is totally different from sexual identity. I am gay, but not confused on my gender. Then again a transgendered individual may be unsure

How Typical



Michael McManus


of their gender but not their sexuality.

I do believe that Barbie puts false images and hopes into the minds of young children, but I am going to have to disagree with the idea of it being a tool in the transgendered movement. I think it's important for everyone to remember that these dolls are meant for children, and shouldn't be taken so literally.

Last year James Dobson, founder of Focus on the Family, suggested that the cartoon character SpongeBob Squarepants was gay. Dobson brought up the subject in a speech pre-inauguration dinner in Washington. He based his view on Spongebob because the character played a role in a "pro-homosexual video." The character was one of several that appeared in a pro-tolerance music video for kids produced by the Anti-Defamation League. Do you think any of the kids watching thought Spongebob was gay? I highly doubt it, just as children aren't being encouraged to become transgendered by being asked "boy, girl, or not sure."

Encouragement and acceptance are two totally different things. You can encourage a child to do or be whatever YOU want, but they will never feel whole and truly loved until they are accepted for who THEY are.

Send questions and comments to mmcmanus@mail.unomaha.edu.



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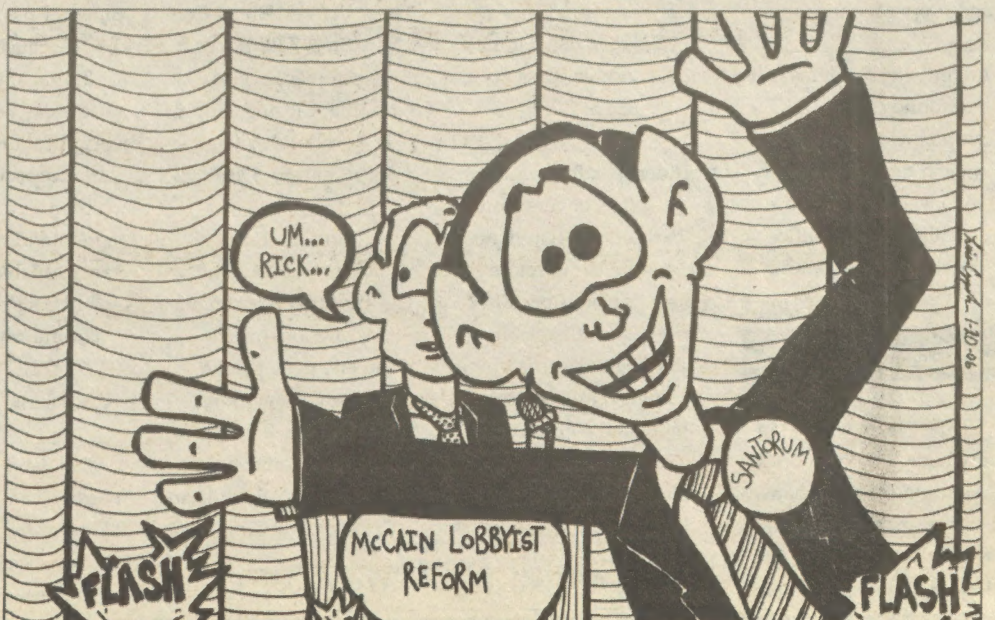
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From **GATLUAK:** Page 4

He was well on his way of accomplishing something that he and his family could have never imagined.

Gatluak is finishing up his last semester at UNO and has quite the impressive resume. He is doubling majoring in international studies with an emphasis in international business management and global strategic studies and also majoring in political science and business administration.

He is currently the president of the South Sudanese Student Association and a member of the Pan African Student Association where he once sat as the secretary.

"My mom and sister are in America but the majority of my family, 10 siblings (his father has three wives, something common in Sudanese families) still live in Sudan," he says. "I send them money every two weeks, just to keep them alive. There are no hospitals in their village, and no social welfare. My money is their survival."

Gatong currently works full-time with mentally disabled individuals, takes over 15 credit hours a semester, raises a 3-year-old son by himself and plans for his future. A future that will hopefully include law school.

"My ultimate goal is to become a lawyer," he admits. "I want to represent my people. There is such a conflict between Sudanese people and the law, simply due to a difference in communication and the way things are run in America. Whenever there is a conflict, the officers do nothing more than arrest the individual."

"In Sudan, the man was the head of the household and his wife was submissive, in

America that isn't the case. The Sudanese people need someone like myself to educate them on the laws and social norms of America."

Gatluak wants to be that beacon of light for the Sudanese community, someone who can guide them through the struggles and confusion that these people deal with on a daily basis.

"The people need a voice," he says with conviction. "There isn't adequate representation for the Sudanese community in Nebraska. We don't have any officials in the city council, government, nothing—all we have is the Sudanese community, and they can only do so much....we don't even have an interpretation service. We need someone to speak out and channel our concerns to the community. I want to be that person."

When looking back at his years at UNO, Gatluak can't help but smile.

"Just take a look at this campus, it's beautiful!" he says, beaming. "Different colored people and races all around you—this is America!"

His advice for UNO students is simple. Life is filled with challenges, but none that can't be overcome. Gatluak is happy with what he has. He has electricity to study by, a car to drive and enough food to eat that he now has to worry about obesity instead of starvation and disease.

"I have no challenges in this life, only opportunities," he says. "Accept these opportunities when they come and remember that you can accomplish anything when you truly believe."

From **España:** Page 4

When the server took our order, we of course directed our attention to the spirits list. España is known for their fruity sangria, so my date chose the wine while I stuck with a light Spanish beer. Both refreshing, both reasonably priced.

It was about a five-minute wait before the first part of the meal came out. Similar to shrimp scampi, six shrimp were sizzling on a griddle covered in olive oil and garlic. Perfect size, perfect taste. The rest of the tapas weren't long behind. On a tray with three levels came the rest of our meal. Everything was full of taste and color. My personal favorite was the spicy chicken cantiloni and the fried potatoes covered in rich tomato sauce.

As soon as we finished our first round of drinks, we decided that the night was young and it was time to order another round. I stuck with the beer, but my date opted for a drink called a Mojito. Made with mint leaves, sugar, limes, rum, soda, and sprite, this ethnic drink was tasty and wasn't

a pain to his wallet.

To finish the night off, the waiter brought over a glass pitcher called a paron. The pitcher was filled with sangria and was compliments of the house. The concept is to put the spout close to your mouth, begin pouring, and then pulling it away letting the stream of sangria flow into your mouth. My date did it with ease, I however had a difficult time and found most of it dripping down my neck and shirt.

The trip to España was a memorable one. The service was excellent, the food was high class and the price was what would be expected for such a nice restaurant. For four drinks and five tapas, our bill was \$66. With a generous \$15 tip as our thank-you, the grand total came to \$81. It may seem a little steep to come, but this is a restaurant worth spending a little extra cash.

If you choose España for your next dining excursion, dress to impress (nothing too fancy, just sophisticated), have some extra cash and prepare to enjoy yourself.

From **HOCKEY 101:** Page 3

which includes buffet dinner with the players and coaches, a Hockey 101 t-shirt, a Hockey 101 information packet, the book *Hockey for Dummies* and one ticket and a parking pass to either game of the series against Lake Superior State on Feb. 3 or 4.

The Diet Pepsi/UNO Women's Walk, now in its 25th year, provides funds for

scholarships for female student athletes at UNO. Liz's Legacy is a charitable organization that funds the advancement of cancer research and care at the University of Nebraska Medical Center's Eppley Cancer Center.

The deadline to register for Hockey 101 is Jan. 26. Those interested in participating in the event can call 554-3422.

From **WRESTLING:** Page 8

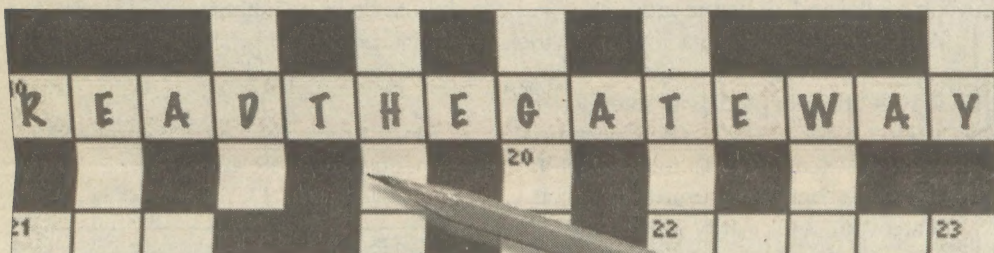
defeated 13-4 in the semifinal round.

A total of eight UNO wrestlers placed in the top three of their weight class in the 12-team, 100-man event. Mitch Waite, Shane Unger, Henry Wahle, Brandon Stanley and J.D. Naig all placed second, while Nick Edmonds and Tony Lewis each won wrestleback finals to earn third place.

Garcia, a redshirt freshman from

Hutchinson, Kan., improved his record to 29-3 with 16 falls as he won his fourth tournament of the year. His three pins tied with those of Iowa State's Jake Varner for the award for most falls in the least time.

The Mavericks will hit the road this weekend for dual meets against North Central Conference rival St. Cloud State Thursday and Division III power Augsburg Friday.



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